

Torrance, California
October 25, 1955

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on October 25, 1955, at 8:00 P. M., Mayor Isen presiding.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale, Schwab, and Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Hall.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. Pennington led the salute to our Flag.

The Reverend Sippel opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of October 18, 1955. Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered.

HEARINGS:

1. CASE NO. 360: Petition of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles for Change of Zone on property located on the South side of Torrance Boulevard and the westerly boundary of the City from A-1 to C-2 (portion I) and R-3 (portion II), for its third and final Hearing. City Clerk Bartlett said he had the Affidavit of Publication. Transmittal form from Planning Commission recommended approval.

There was no one in the audience who asked to be heard regarding this Change of Zone.

Councilman Drale moved that the hearing be closed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation for approval of the Planning Commission on Case 360. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. Hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 2832 to Vacate a Portion of Via Colusa, located in portions of Lots 86 and 87 of Tract No. 20772.

There was no one in the audience who asked to be heard regarding this Resolution.

Councilman Benstead moved the hearing be closed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the vacation of a Portion of Via Colusa, located in portions of Lots 86 and 87 of Tract No. 20772. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. Hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 2833 to Vacate a Portion of Reese Road, located in Tract No. 15569.

City Manager Stevens was asked to outline this, and told the Council the City was actually exchanging footage here to line up the Street.

There was no one in the audience who asked to be heard regarding this Resolution.

Councilman Blount moved that the Hearing be closed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with Resolution of Intention No. 2833. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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4. CASE NO. 353: Petition of Grand Construction Company for Change of Zone on property located on the West side of Crenshaw Boulevard from 176th Street to 181st Street from R-2 to C-1, recommended for approval, for its third and final hearing. City Clerk Bartlett said he had the Affidavit of Publication.

The City Clerk reported that he had received a petition of protest to this Change of Zone bearing 71 names, and petition for recommendation of the Change of Zone bearing 25 names.

Mr. Alex Gale of 2622 West 179th Street spoke to the Council opposing this Change of Zone.

Mayor Isen asked Mr. Powell of the Planning Commission if it would be possible for that Commission, by stipulation, to control the type of businesses to go into the area.

Mr. Powell said that on a Change of Zone the Planning Commission could not set conditions. He said that they could, however, exercise some control over the types of businesses put into the area by stipulations from the applicant.

City Clerk Bartlett introduced a letter from Alfred B. Hedberg, representing the firm of Robert B. Hedberg, General Contractor, protesting the Change of Zone.

Mr. John Benarian of 3120 West 178th Street protested the Change of Zone.

Mr. Alex C. Fred, counsel for Grand Construction Company, spoke to the Council, saying that the only businesses which were planned for the area were grocery stores, drug stores, and the types of business which would serve as conveniences for the residents of the area. He expressed the view of Grand Construction Company that the area was not suitable for residential construction as it fronted directly on Crenshaw Boulevard.

Mayor Isen told Mr. Fred that he felt Grand Construction Company would have a better chance of obtaining approval if this were brought before Council after the passage of the Ordinance which will establish controlled zoning.

Mr. Charles Mitchell of 3124 West 178th Street spoke to the Council in opposition to the Change of Zone.

Mr. A. M. Bittle of 17720 South Crenshaw, who said he lives across Crenshaw from the land in question, expressed the opinion that the property is suitable for residential construction and opposed the change of zone.

Mr. Bert Lynn, of the Planning Commission, said the Commission had spent about three months in deliberation on this Case. He said that so far as they were concerned, the whole action on the parcel had been handled very unsatisfactorily. He explained that a Committee of the Planning Commission, composed of Messrs. Mulvihill, Fleetwood and himself had finally approved this after many stipulations had been made.

Mr. George Powell, Director of the Planning Commission, showed the Council sketches which Grand Construction Company had prepared of the projected commercial area.

Mr. Edward Martinez of 17809 Atkinson Street expressed the view that the land in question was too small a parcel to make a good commercial area.

Councilman Blount moved the hearing be closed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved that the request for Change of Zone in Case 353 be denied. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 8:35 P. M. the Mayor declared a five-minute recess, and the Council reconvened at 8:40 P. M.

5. CASE NO. 359: Petition of Dresser Equipment Company for Change of Zone on property located at 2410 Carson Street from R-3 and C-1 to M-1, recommended for approval by the Planning Commission with certain stipulations, for its third and final hearing. City Clerk Bartlett presented the Affidavit of Publication.

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City Attorney Hall read the stipulations to the Council as follows:

1. That there would be 50 feet from the property line to the M-1 usage, allowing a minimum of 15 feet for office space (making approximately 150 feet from the nearest house to the M-1 usage).
2. That the 35 feet fronting the M-1 buildings be developed to the satisfaction of the City Council.
3. That an additional road be provided on the easterly extreme of the property for ingress and egress purposes.
4. That Oak Street be further used as a one-way ingress road.
5. That as close to one-to-one parking as practicable be enforced.
6. That where necessary to maintain 35 foot set back from the present right-of-way, a demolition of the present facilities be completed within one year.

Mr. R. G. Harris, General Manager of the MacDonald Construction Company, spoke to the Council at some length on this. He explained that the MacDonald Construction Company had bought the land pending passage of this Change of Zone, and that it is now in escrow. He said that a 50 foot set back would make the property economically unsuitable and explained why some of the stipulations of the Planning Commission would make it difficult to develop the land. He said that making Oak Street a one-way street would have to be negotiated with the property owners on both sides of the street. He explained that bringing a road in on the east of the property, as proposed, would necessitate destruction of part of the only good building now on the property. He presented sketches of several buildings which MacDonald Construction Company has recently built for uses similar to the ones proposed for this area. He said that the buildings which MacDonald Brothers propose to build here would be of the same type.

Joseph A. Landerville of 1630 Beech Street spoke in opposition to the Change of Zone being sought, and presented a petition to the City Clerk which he said bore about 60 names, all being opposed to the change, most of the signers living on Beech, Acacia, and Madrid.

Mr. A. Elder of 2325 Carson Street spoke against the rezoning, saying that he and his neighbors prefer to have the property as it is. He then presented a petition bearing some fifty-odd names in opposition to the Change of Zone.

Mr. John Gitcheer of 1622 Beech opposed the Change of Zone, saying that Beech is the main ingress street to this property and is a narrow street and that the probable increase in traffic would be dangerous.

Mr. Arthur Idie of 2317 Carson Street spoke against the rezoning, saying the beautiful pictures shown here might not be truly representative of the proposed buildings on the property in question.

Mrs. Blackwell of 1634 Beech opposed the rezoning.

Mrs. McDonald of 1626 Beech asked the Council not to rezone the property.

Councilman Benstead moved that the hearing on Case No. 359 be closed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved that the Change of Zone be denied. Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, failed by the following vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Schwab. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Benstead expressed an opinion that this development would not be a good thing.

Councilman Schwab said he lived almost as near the property as does Councilman Benstead, and that he feels it would be an advantage to have this development on the property.

Mr. Louis Brigante, who said he lived across the street from the property being discussed, spoke against the property being rezoned.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in Case 359. Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab.

Councilman Drale expressed his view that this development would be in the best interests of Torrance as a whole. He suggested the Change

of Zone be granted with the stipulation that it could never be changed, and said he would be in favor of negotiating such conditions. He then suggested that the owners of the property grant the City of Torrance a 10 foot easement for the purpose of widening Carson Street and put a planting zone 50 feet deep behind that. He pointed out that the Planning Commission had not required the 10 feet necessary to widen the street, and said the street would need to be widened to carry the increased traffic.

City Clerk Bartlett read a letter from the MacDonald Brothers Construction Company as follows:

"#1: MacDonald Brothers agree for the purpose of M-1 use to abide by 35 foot set back line on the existing Carson Street property line.

#2: MacDonald Brothers agree for the purpose of M-1 use to abide by an additional 15 foot set back for office use, making a total of 50 feet set back of non-industrial use.

#3: MacDonald Brothers agree on that portion of Carson Street frontage east of Oak Street to abide by the set back restrictions in Paragraphs One and Two as soon as the existing structures are removed.

#4: MacDonald Brothers agree for the purpose of M-1 use that the first 35 feet will be paved and landscaped.

#5: MacDonald Brothers agree that as close to one-to-one parking as practicable be enforced.

#6: MacDonald Brothers stipulate that all buildings on this portion will be of good construction and have modern architectural facades."

Councilman Benstead asked why they are petitioning for a Change of Zone if they intend to put offices on the front.

Mayor Isen asked why MacDonald Brothers were speaking for this Change of Zone inasmuch as it had been Dresser who petitioned for the Change. Mr. Harris explained the status of the land between Dresser and MacDonald Brothers.

Mayor Isen asked if MacDonald Brothers had title to the land, and was told that they had not.

Councilman Blount said that his original motion was to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission, and he would add to that a 10 foot set back on both Carson and Crenshaw for street purposes be granted and a 50 foot set back for planting be specified.

Mayor Isen said it was his opinion that as Dresser had sold the property and MacDonald was not the petitioner, this was an idle act.

Councilman Blount withdrew his motion to concur, and moved that the Petition for Change of Zone be denied.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:35 P. M. the Mayor declared a five-minute recess and the Council reconvened at 9:40 P. M.

6. CASE NO. 361: Petition of Southern California Edison Company for Change of Zone on property located on the north side of 182nd Street westerly of prolongation of Amie Street, with stipulation that Edison Company improve sandy frontage from R-2 to A-1, with recommendation for approval, for its third and final hearing. City Clerk Bartlett presented the Affidavit of Publication.

It was explained to the Council by Mr. Blanchard of the Edison Company that this Change of Zone is sought in order that Edison can increase the capacity of the present installation from 5100 kilowatts to 7500 kilowatts. He said no change would be made in the size of the building.

City Attorney Hall explained that under our Land Use Ordinance, this Change of Zone is necessary for them to increase the load capacity of the installation.

There was some discussion about the granting of more land to the City for the purpose of putting Amie Street through to 182nd Street, but the Counsel for Edison Company said this would involve the expensive moving

and changing of ducting.

Councilman Schwab moved that the hearing on Case No. 361 be closed. Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission as an Urgency measure. Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

City Clerk Bartlett read the following:

1. A request from the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association for survey of cost for installing sidewalks, curbs and gutters on Prairie Avenue as a preliminary step to the possible formation of an assessment district.

Mr. Nobbe, of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, was in the audience, and said that due to the imminent building of the freeway, some of the people in the district would be paying such fees for 10 years and only using them for about 5 years, so they wished to revise their request and ask that the survey include only the property on Prairie from 174th Street to 182nd Street.

Councilman Blount moved that the Engineering Department be instructed to make the survey. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. Three claims for personal injury and damage to property due to defective traffic signal at Sepulveda and Hawthorne, September 3, 1955, claimants: Stanford Rowe, Beverly L. Michalski, and Donald Stanley Michalski.

Councilman Blount moved that the claims be denied and referred to the City Attorney and the insurance carrier for the City. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. A letter from the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission, transmitting print showing proposed Amendment No. 307 to Master Plan of Highways.

Councilman Blount moved that this matter be approved and filed. Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection, so ordered.

4. Letter from Los Angeles County Health Department, transmitting a copy of California State Health Department release pertinent to progress in relation to rabies quarantine.

The letter was ordered filed as a matter of record.

5. A letter from the California State Division of Highways, District VII, with reference to the School Crossing at 230th Street and Hawthorne Avenue. This letter said that the State Division of Highways does not consider a signal necessary, and said other safety measures should be stressed.

City Manager Stevens said that he has made several calls and written letters to appropriate parties, and still has not given up getting a signal at that crossing.

Chief of Police Haslam said he has contacted Captain Watkins of the Compton Highway Patrol Office and was advised by him that they are not permitted to send out special details to incorporated areas so they can offer no assistance outside of that incidental to their usual patrol work. The Chief said he had taken it upon himself to station a motorcycle off there at the hours when traffic is heavy, and to give the Crossing Guard and others who are helping there special education as to the best and safest method of handling their problem.

It was agreed that all that can be done is for the City to keep working at the problem.

The letter was ordered filed.

6. Mayor Isen said that Mr. Tom Watson of the Chamber of Commerce had appeared at the Pre-Council meeting and had outlined the projected plans of the Chamber for their Christmas program which were submitted to Council for approval on October 18, 1955. The plans which the Chamber of Commerce has for this promotional activity, as elaborated upon by Mr. Watson at the Pre-Council meeting, had met with the approval of the Council.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the request from the Chamber of Commerce as outlined by Mr. Watson at the Pre-Council meeting. Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

7. A letter from the South Bay Cities Highway Committee with reference to freeways in the South Bay area.

Councilman Blount moved that the Mayor write letters to the proper parties to support this effort to get parts of the San Diego Freeway under construction, and the Mayor asked City Manager Stevens to have his office write such letters for his signature.

The letter was ordered filed.

8. A request from the Salvation Army for permission to place their "Christmas Kettles" on the streets of Torrance, during the month of December.

Councilman Benstead moved to grant the request. Councilman Drale seconded the motion. There were no objections and it was so ordered.

9. A letter from South Bay Chapter No. 92, Disabled American Veterans, requesting permission to distribute Forget-Me-Not flowers November 9, 10, 11, and 12, for voluntary contributions.

Councilman Blount moved that the request be granted. Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, so ordered.

10. Request of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, submitted by James Squire, for permission to use the City Auditorium without fee on Sunday, November 27, 1955, for the purpose of holding Quarterly Conference.

Councilman Drale moved that this request be granted with the usual clean-up fee the only charges. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

11. A letter from Mrs. Harry Siball asking for information as to how to secure bus service through Ellinwood section.

This was discussed by the Council, who agreed that Bus Superintendent Chamberlain should reply to this letter and explain to the writer that it is the intention of the City to have such service as soon as it can be provided for.

12. A memorandum from A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk, recommending refund of \$50.00 Business License issued to Frank Teasdale. This was paid in error, as a fee covering the same period had been paid previously.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Clerk. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Recommendations of City Manager:

PERSONNEL:

1. Betty Schroeder, having been employed in a temporary capacity in the City Clerk's office, has been appointed to serve her probationary period effective October 17, 1955, at the first salary step. (Selected from Eligible List.)
2. Lillie M. Timmons was employed as Typist Clerk in the City Clerk's office on a temporary basis, effective October 24, 1955, at the first salary step. (Selected from Eligible List.)

3. Kenneth E. Turner was employed as Park Maintenance Man, effective October 17, 1955, at the first salary step. (Selected from Eligible List.)
4. Anna E. Hight and James L. Daniel have been employed as Recreation Attendants, effective October 17, 1955, at a compensation of \$1.25 per hour. (Selected from Eligible List.)

Councilman Blount moved to concur with Recommendations one through four, inclusive, of the City Manager. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

5. That Arthur Moore, Plumbing Inspector, be authorized to attend the Western Plumbing Officials' Conference in San Diego November 8 to 12, inclusive, with appropriate expenses paid.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with this recommendation of the City Manager. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. To the GMC Truck and Coach Division for the purchase of four Model TDH-4512 coaches, as ordered, the sum of \$74,048.28. Delivery to be taken on or about November 1, 1955.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. That Lloyd Crowther, Sherman Miller, Silas Whitman and James Crowther be authorized to go to Pontiac, Michigan, to drive out the above buses; that plane fare in the amount of \$86.00 and fuel and living expenses in the amount of \$200.00 be advanced to each.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. For purchase of Avia Motorcycle Radio Unit, the sum of \$505.73, including sales tax.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. To Barclay Surveying Company for engineering services during the month of September, 1955, the sum of \$1,059.88.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2841

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT DEED FROM ODEAL DALGLEISH, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN.

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2841. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2842

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT DEED FROM CLIFFORD L. NELSON AND ETHEL L. NELSON, HUSBAND AND WIFE.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2842. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 20019: Transmittal form resubmitted, with additional Planning Commission recommendation regarding drainage and extension of 162nd Street, as requested by the Council at meeting of October 18. This submitted by the Grand Construction Company, and located southerly of Redondo Beach Blvd., northerly of 164th Street, and westerly of Arlington Avenue, containing 84 lots. Recommended for approval.

This tract was resubmitted as it had been originally, with 162nd Street dead-ending on Arlington.

There was some discussion as to the reason for this, and Mr. Powell of the Planning Commission explained that to carry the street through would create too many so-called "key lots", and would cause the street to dead-end at the drive-in theatre at Redondo Beach Boulevard.

Councilman Benstead remarked that he felt the statements made with reference to drainage were still too indefinite.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission subject to the condition that 162nd Street be carried on through the tract and that a revised tentative map be submitted to the Council for approval.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Schwab. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 20027: Transmittal form resubmitted, with a recommendation for approval, being submitted by the Liberty Investment Company, having 12 lots, and being located northerly of 171st Street, easterly of Ainsworth Avenue and Tract 18609, and along the easterly prolongation of 170th Street, with special conditions.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission on Tract No. 20027. Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

CASE NO. 364: Transmittal form from the Planning Commission for Variance to remove existing building and improve parking lot at 1104 Arlington Avenue, application of Dr. Arthur Berke.

This case was on the Agenda in error, as the date of November 8, 1955, had been set for consideration of it. It will be considered on that date.

REPORTS:

- a. Report from James M. Hall, City Attorney, concerning Grant Deed from Truman Enterprises, Inc.

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This report advised the Council that the deed in question is a straight grant deed without requirement of any use of the property conveyed by it. In view of this fact, City Attorney Hall said the City should have no hesitancy of carrying out the recommendations of Mr. George Stevens with reference to retaining the property.

Councilman Schwab moved that the Report be filed. Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen asked City Manager Stevens if he would notify Truman Browne of the action taken.

- b. Report from James M. Hall, City Attorney, with reference to expiration of terms of members of the Recreation Commission.

Mayor Isen asked that action on these terms be postponed to the next meeting of the Council on November 1. There was no objection and it was so ordered.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2843

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FROM MILTON KAUFFMAN AND DON WILSON AND AUTHORIZING THE RECORDATION OF THE DEED TO SAID REAL PROPERTY UPON THE CONSUMMATION OF SAID PURCHASE.

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2843. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2844

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1955-1956.

Councilman Schwab moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Schwab moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2844. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 781

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 24.2 AND ADDING SECTION 24.19 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, 1954," RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF SIGNS.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote. at its first and final reading.

Councilman Blount moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 781, Motion seconded by Mayor Isen. Urgency

Mr. Arthur W. Goff, representing Pacific Outdoor Advertising Company at 995 North Mission Road, Los Angeles, spoke to the Council regarding this Ordinance. Mr. Goff opposed the Ordinance, and said his Company had made large investments in Torrance under the existing laws. He then asked that this Ordinance be held over until their attorneys had a chance to study it and present their side of this to the Council.

Councilman Blount's motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Clerk Bartlett advised the Council that he had a report he would like to make as a matter of record. He said he had just received the official certificate of the population from Washington, D. C. It states that there are 18,883 occupied dwelling units as of the census date, September 17, 1955. The total population figure was given as 67,459. City Clerk Bartlett then proceeded to give the breakdown of figures.

City Manager Stevens said that the cement haulers' strike had brought about a hardship case involving the area facing Carson Street between Maple Avenue and Madrona. He explained that the houses are finished and many of the buyers now wish to move into their new homes. The street has an oil base, but ordinarily the City would not allow the houses to be occupied until the street was completely finished, but under the indefinite circumstances brought about by the strike it seemed to him that the City might, in this instance, make an exception on this one street.

Councilman Schwab moved to grant the exception outlined by the City Manager. Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objection, so ordered.

Councilman Blount brought up the matter of the red paint on the curbs of Torrance Boulevard west of Crenshaw. He said the Council had asked some time ago that this be removed from certain parts of the curb. He said this has not been done. He moved that the party responsible for this work be directed to do it as soon as possible by the City Manager. Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, so ordered.

Councilman Blount brought up the fact that the word "Stop" had been cut in the paving of Crenshaw Boulevard at 182nd Street, which makes this street very rough. The Councilman moved that these holes be filled at once. Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection, so ordered.

Councilman Blount asked if any of the Recreation Department projects approved by the Council were under way. City Manager Stevens replied that the plans have been approved and the projects are now at a stand-still waiting for cement, which has been delayed because of the strike.

Councilman Schwab brought up the matter of the streets in Torrance being extremely dirty. He cited the condition of some streets where trash has been thrown to the roadside by passers-by. He asked if the City could not do something to help this condition. He suggested that, if necessary, the Street Department employ more men to clean these areas. He asked if the Police Department could not enforce more strictly the laws prohibiting littering the streets.

City Manager Stevens recalled the "clean-up" campaign which the City had put on not too long ago, and said that in some instances when the police had made arrests the cases had been thrown out of court, and in others the fine had been as low as \$2.00. He said that everyone in the City would have to take an active part in such a clean-up effort.

Chief of Police Haslam spoke to the Council about this and told them of the difficulties his Department has in enforcing the laws governing "littering". Council instructed the Chief to notify his Department to be more strict on this point.

City Manager Stevens told the Council of the methods used in clean-up campaigns by various cities, and how strict they had been in enforcing their laws. He said that every resident of the City of Torrance would have to be enlisted to aid in this effort.

Councilman Benstead asked Chief of Police Haslam if action had been taken about the trucks on Gramercy, concerning which several complaints had been lodged with the Council. The Chief replied that these people had been contacted and informed of the law, and would act accordingly. The Mayor asked the Chief of Police to give the Council a report on this at their next meeting.

Mayor Isen informed the Council that the Torrance Police Department is sponsoring a "Car Rodeo" at El Camino Stadium parking lot next Sunday, and that they were all invited to be present and to participate if they cared to do so.

Mr. Beasley of the Planning Commission told the Council that the fact the blinker stop sign at 171st Street and Crenshaw is out of order has been reported to the Planning Commission. He asked when this would be repaired, and was told by the City Manager that the signs now there are to be replaced with a full signal.

Mr. Ted Kolet's of Ward Street spoke to the Council, once more protesting the "Walteria Lake" zoning of his property.

Councilman Drale moved that all bills properly audited be paid Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 P. M.

A. H. Barthel

City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

Albert Isen

Mayor of the City of Torrance